

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Radio Sets

1. A.E.G. radio set with short, medium, and long waves, operated by electric current. It was bought during 1954 for approximately 1,500 new leva. Other types of radios had the following prices in 1954:
- | | |
|--|------------|
| a. "Voroshilov", Bulgarian make, three waves | 800 leva |
| b. Czech radio set, name unknown | 2,500 leva |
| c. East German radio set, name unknown | 1,500 leva |
| d. Wired loudspeaker (without mounting) | 140 leva |

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Permits are not required to buy radios or replacement parts.

2. All kinds of replacement parts are available in Svilengrad, but those for Western European sets were more expensive. Parts for Satellite radio sets were easy to find, and they could be made to fit all kinds of Western sets.

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3. There are two radio-repair shops in Svilengrad and many stores which sell radio sets. The main one is the Store of the State Enterprise, called "Stroyamatmetiz" (Construction Material and Metal Products). Because the village of Lisovo is not electrified there are no radio sets there. In Svilengrad, however, about 10 percent of the houses have sets, and almost 80 percent have wired loudspeakers.

Illegal Broadcasts

4. It is almost impossible for an illegal radio station to exist in Bulgaria without being discovered by the Communists. The people do not want to

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support such a station because of their fear of the Communist regime. If one were to exist, however, it would have a great influence over the population.

5. In the beginning of 1954 [redacted] Radio Goryanin [redacted] program was badly jammed [redacted] Later [redacted] was not able to tune in Radio Goryanin [redacted] something has happened to it. Opinion is divided over the location of Radio Goryanin; some people say it operated within Bulgaria, possibly in the Stara Planina or Rhodope Mountains, while others believe it operated from abroad. [redacted]

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6. There are no legal restrictions on listening to foreign anti-Communist broadcasts, [redacted] However, in general, people who listen are considered enemies of the regime. Jamming is the chief measure employed by the government to prevent listening to foreign broadcasts. These jamming were often strong enough to destroy the reception entirely. Sometimes at about 8 p.m. the Communists stopped the flow of electricity.

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Reaction to Foreign Broadcasts

7. In general all foreign broadcasts are well liked and most of the people buy sets for the express purpose of listening to them. [redacted] programs [redacted]

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- a. The anecdotes (probably Pisho and Pendo) and the accusations against Communists (probably "We Accuse") of Radio Free Europe;
- b. News and Political Commentaries of VOA.
- c. Press reviews and Commentaries of Radio London.

8. The best time of day to listen to these broadcasts are as follows:

- a. 8 p.m. to 12 midnight;
- b. 5 a.m. to 7 a.m., for the night shift;
- c. 12 noon to 1:30 p.m.

The best days of the week to listen to anti-Communist broadcasts are Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

9. [redacted] in order for foreign broadcasts to have a greater influence over the population, the following points should be included and emphasized in the programs:

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- a. The situation in other Communist countries so that the people will realize that they are not alone in their misery;
- b. Sharp criticism of the Communist dictatorship;
- c. Criticism of the Soviet influence over Bulgaria and of Bulgaria's losses in trade with the USSR;
- d. Ideological destruction of Communism by the creation of a new ideological basis for the people (The people must be told what the next regime will be after Communism is removed).
- e. The creation of a new economic base for the people with emphasis on the future organization of the Bulgarian economy and the future situation of the workers, farmers, peasants, etc.;

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- f. The success of the Free World should be emphasized as an example of that which Bulgaria will enjoy in the future;
- g. Direct criticism of national and local Communist Leaders, biographic description, and an estimate of their future in a free Bulgaria;
- h. Political news should emphasize the speeches of foreign diplomats at international conferences;
- i. Anti-Communist propaganda must be made to reach the Bulgarian youth; the lack of this propaganda is one of the reasons for the success of the Communist indoctrination of young people;
- j. There is no need for medical and religious programs. (The medical lessons may be listened to in Bulgaria and nobody likes the religious programs any longer.)

Anti-Communist Leaflets

- 10 During the summer of 1954 anti-Communist leaflets were dropped over Khaskovo. Immediately after the dropping, the militia and party members blockaded the city and no one was allowed to leave his home before all the leaflets were gathered up. In spite of this, many people found leaflets in their courtyards and read them.
11. The peasants are the most active anti-Communists in Bulgaria because of the high state-delivery quotas and taxes. Common workers are also active anti-Communists because of their low wages.

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